(c) if so, to what extent it would help the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Since the exercise for revival of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)/Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) is at preliminary stage, no definite view can be taken at this stage to the extent it would benefit the employees.

Import of material for DAP

†2031. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether DAP and materials used in production of DAP are imported;

(b) whether it is a fact that the availability of phosphatic fertilizers this year at national level is likely to be less and

(c) if so, the efforts being made by Government to make available sufficient quantity of DAP and other phosphatic fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

NPS-III

2032. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new policy named NPS-III regarding supply of urea has been introduced by Government;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether any problem/difficulty to be faced by implementing the new policy have been pointed out by some manufacturers/suppliers/Institutional agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some suggestions have been received by Government to overcome these difficulties/problems; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (f) The policy for urea units under New Pricing Scheme Stage-III (NPS-III), which was formulated on the basis of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

recommendations made by a committee set up under the chairmanship ot Dr. Y.K. Alagh, has been notified by the Government on 8.3.2007 to be implemented *w.e.f.* 1.10.2006. The Stage-III policy aims to promote usage of most efficient and comparatively cheaper feed stock natural gas/LNG for production of urea in the country. The policy lays down a formulation to dis-incentivise high cost production from the non-gas based units and to facilitate their early conversion to gas. The policy also encourages setting up of Joint Venture projects abroad where gas is available at reasonable price. Under NPS-III, the movement of urea will be monitored throughout the country by an online web based monitoring system. The subsidy on urea will be paid only when the urea reaches the district. The freight reimbursement to urea units will now be on actual rail and road leads. The reimbursement of railway freight will be as per the actual expenditure whereas the road component will be escalated by a composite road transport index. Further, the Department will operate a buffer stock through the State institutional Agencies/ fertilizer companies in major consuming states up to a limit of 5% of the seasonal requirement.

NPS-III is under implementation. Some of the units have represented against some provisions of the NPS-III, which are being dealt with in accordance with the laid down rules and procedures.

Import price of urea

2033. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the import price of urea since 1999-2000, till date;

(b) the quantity of urea imported during the said period, total money spent on this account and the subsidy outgo for the import;

(c) the projected consumption of urea in the country during the next plan period; and

(d) the step taken by Government to bridge the gap between demand and indigenous availability of urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The weighted average C&F price of urea imported on Government account since 1999-2000 is as below:–

Year	Wt. Average C&F price (US $ per MT)	
	For import from other sources	For imports from OMIFCO under UOTA
1	2	3
1999-2000	86.00	Nil
2000-2001	Nil	Nil